



TOP OF THE HILL



MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY 4001 HARDING ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37205
2 APRIL 2015 VOL. XX, NO. 3

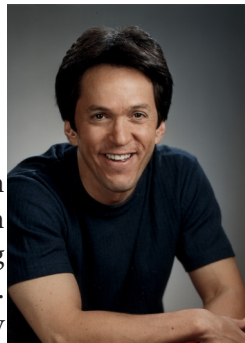
Mitch Albom is a Hit with Fathers and Sons

Father-Son Dinner

By Julian Habermann

The annual father-son dinner keeps up its tradition of excellence with inspiring speeches and good food. Although this event was my dad's eighth dinner, I was still very excited. After paying the money, we got in line for the delicious food. Jim 'n Nicks did an extremely good job catering as they do every year. The barbecue has become a great tradition and never gets old. After we settled down, the real part of the dinner was started.

As most of you know, the father-son dinner consists mostly of talks. However, another part of the dinner acts in celebration for others. The dinner also serves as almost a father's club meeting. During the



Mitch Albom

dinner, awards for this year and new officer positions were announced. Also in addition, Mr. Kelly and Mrs. Pippin received tenure at MBA for contributing so much.

The speeches from sons to fathers were especially good this year. Every speech was heartwarming and left an impact on me. It is surprising how much character was exposed during each boy's speech about his father. Each person who spoke showed how much he loved his father by talking about him in front of hundreds of people. These talks always are filled with great stories and morals that help build the atmosphere around the dinner.

As always, the highlight of the dinner was this year's guest speaker Mitch Albom, the esteemed sports reporter, philanthropist, and author, who has written multiple *New York Times* bestsellers including *Tuesdays with Morrie*, *The Five People You meet in Heaven*, and *For One More Day*. His talk is one of most memorable speeches I have ever heard. He recounted his story with Morrie Schwartz, a retired sociology professor who died of ALS, which was filled with many lessons. Instead of trying to sell

described morals through his own stories. He discussed ideals to live by through phrases like "giving is living." In the end, he created an outstanding talk that many people loved.

In conclusion, the father-son dinner stands as a great place to bond with your dad. Although this event sounds very exclusive, anybody can come even with another adult such as a friend's dad or a father figure. This event is always fun and extremely notable. The occasion is designed to be the perfect place to help grow your relationship with your dad and to have a great time. Every speech makes me appreciate my dad even more, and I can spend a lot of time with him. Overall, the father-son dinner acts as a place where you can eat amazing food, listen to inspiring speeches, and connect with your dad further.



Jordan and Harold Turks with their father, Harold Sr.

IN THIS ISSUE

On the Hill	1 - 5
Features	6 - 13
Serialized Story...	10
Dr. Love	8
Entertainment	14 - 17
Sports	18 - 20
Big Red Sports	20 - 23
The Back Page	24

GAME ON!! MBA'S FIRST FIELD DAY IS A SUCCESS!!

Field Day

By Sam Funk

What else can be said? Field Day. Blood, sweat, and tears all shed on this momentous day. The struggle for victory. The will to win. The companionship developed. All of these contributed to the inaugural field day. Two teams fighting till their last breath. Both Cardinal and Silver teams giving it their all. But in the end, only one team can win, and this year, that one was Silver.



Field Day this year consisted of many events, both athletic and academic. First, the day started with pull-ups. In eighth grade, the Cardinal team produced only a meager 6 pull-ups. The Silver team easily won with about 40. After an earful from Charlie Buffkin about how the Cardinal team needed a win, the Cardinal team defeated the Silver in Ultimate Frisbee. Even the star player for the Silver, Tom Jouan, was unable to prevent the Cardinal victory. Then, on to the basketball courts, where a well fought match between the teams left Silver with the win. Slippery courts left the



Cardinal team sliding all over. Next, the two teams moved to the soccer fields. The dynamic duo of Henry Hilbert and Luke Bernatavitz for the Silver team were shut down because of the stone cold defensive of the one and only Ian Hall (Yan). Feeling down from their recent loss, Silver tried to avenge their loss in the great game of football. In the B-Team game, Jack (Angus) Rankin threw some beautiful spirals, breaking up the exceptional defense by Adric Kimbrough (ATG). Then came the tennis matches. Will Nahley for Silver was able to defeat the

underdog, Nick Nola, despite the crowd taunting Will vigorously. Directly following the matches, the teams headed to the true showdown, academics. Sam Decoster led the Cardinal team to victory many times. The mathlete star fought like a true champion and successfully accomplished the prized win for his team, Cardinal. However at the end of the day, the Silver team was victorious. The High School Silver teams took control of the events, leaving the Cardinal team in the dust. It was truly a beautiful first field day.



FIELD DAY IMAGES

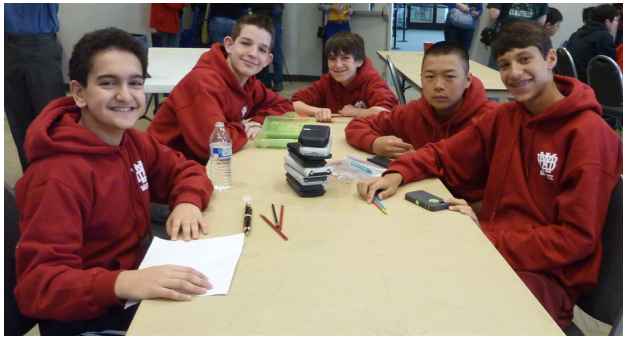


ON THE HILL

Mathcounts Wins State!

By Julian Habermann

After lots of training, the MBA Mathcounts team won the state competition, and Baylor Sai and Sam DeCoster qualify for the national competition. Mathcounts is a national math competition that contains two individual rounds and one four person team round. This year's Mathcounts team started training in the summer in two separate groups, one consisting of seventh graders and the other made of eighth graders, with the exception of



Our Mathletes prepare for the next round.

seventh grader, Baylor Sai. The team practiced constantly, meeting for half of many lunches and gathering over many weekends. All of this hard work, however, finally paid off in the competitions.

As one of MBA's most successful groups, the team had a lot to live up to, but exceeded all expectations. In the city competition, the team swept every aspect of the competition. Individually, Sam DeCoster took 1st, Julian Habermann placed 2nd, Baylor Sai got 3rd, Zach Garfinkel ranked 4th, and Nikhil Peterson made 5th. The team of Sam, Julian, Nikhil, and Baylor, also got 1st. In fact, everyone named qualified for the state competition. In addition, Alex Kalams was just one place away from making it to state. After doing so well in city, how would the team do in state?



Our state champion Mathcounts team, front row (l-r) Julian Habermann, Coach Qian, Baylor Sai, and Zach Garfinkel. Back row (l-r) Headmaster Brad Gioia, Nikhil Peterson, Sam DeCoster, and Matt Golenor.

The team then was truly dedicated to winning. More and more meetings occurred with many practice sets to do from old competitions. Zach Garfinkel even left a ski trip two days early to compete in state. Everyone tried to get ready for the huge contest. This state competition would send the top team's coach to the national competition in Boston and would also bring the top four individual competitors.

Finally, the day of March 21 arrived, and the state event began. This tournament included the full individual sprint and target rounds, the team round, and finally a bonus quick countdown round. First, the long and grueling individual rounds occurred,

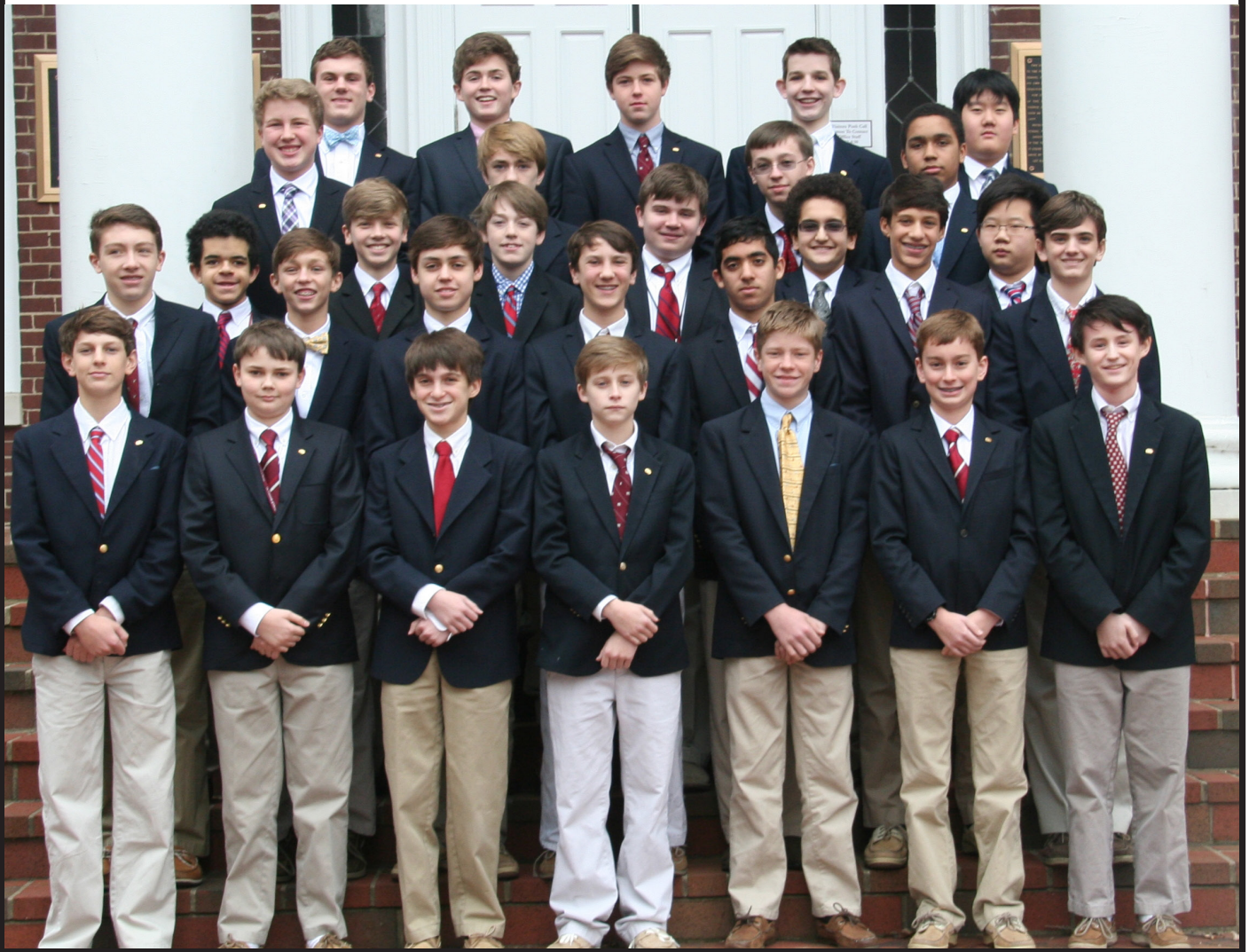
with the best four scores going to nation. Then the team worked together to try to bring Mrs. Qian to nation. Finally the bonus countdown round occurred with Julian getting 2nd overall. At last, the awards started. In the end, the MBA team won 1st and sent Mrs. Qian to nation. Then they announced the top four contestants with Sam DeCoster getting 2nd and Baylor Sai winning the whole competition by getting 1st.

I would like to thank Mrs. Qian for working so hard to make the team do so well. Without her, there is no way we would have been so successful. Also I would like to thank all of the MBA faculty who supported the team. Thank you, Mr. Gioia and Mr. Golenor, for even coming out to watch both competitions. Make sure to congratulate Mrs. Qian, Sam, and Baylor for doing so well and wish them luck at nation.



State champions always get Pi. Happy Pi Day, guys!

Congratulations on a Job Well Done!



Junior Honor Society Inductees

Michael Ambrosius
Jonathan Brown
Charlie Buffkin
Reed Campbell
Campbell Cook
Tillman Dean
Sam DeCoster
Sam Dugan
Joel Elasy
Sam Funk

Zach Garfinkel
Atticus Glen
Hugh Graham
Julian Habermann
Ian Hall
Alexander Hasse
Jake Johnston
Danny Lee
Paul Lee
Brandon Lewis

Jackson Link
Alex Massad
Garrett Murphy
Braden Myers
Nick Nola
Otto Olafsson
Nikhil Peterson
John Preston
Jack Rankin
Reagan Sparks

Joseph Stevens
William Stewart
Andrew Sutphin
Ben Wood

The Classic 911 Restoration

By William Barton

For many, cars are used as a way to get from point A to point B, but others have a passion, and the enthusiast cannot help but get excited when you see a unique car. Every day when I walked into Martin's German Service a 1964 British-racing green 911 that



The 911 during its restoration

was 19-years-old in 1973 to use as a daily driver/track car. The car he bought was soon disassembled to rebuild the engine; after that, the 911 was put into storage at his father's

garage, and over the years, it sat disassembled with every part he needed properly preserved.

For the 25th anniversary

of the 911, *Panorama* celebrated it with an article about the oldest 911 in 1988. The car was race prepped with stripped interior and roll bars.

As the years passed, Mr. Martin was busy with his new

business and memberships; so when the 50th anniversary for the 911 was near, he felt the need to properly restore his rare Porsche 911 to celebrate the history of the 911.

The parts were preserved in boxes with newspaper wrapped around them that were as old as the 1970s. Even Mr. Martin said, "The headline on the newspaper read, 'Nixon resigns.'" The engine was torn down again and only the rubber seals needed attention because of Mr. Martin's care he gave the Porsche over the years.

By the spring of 2013, Mr. Martin decided to fully restore the car by November for the 2013 Hilton Head Island Concours d'Elegance. The restoration was postponed when a painter damaged the car panels, but an expert painter finished the job and brought the beautiful Porsche back to its former glory. This car was rewarded Best in Class finish.

Mr. Martin's passion for Porsche has not come to rest yet. Today, he is restoring another 1964 911 that he collected from a friend. Now, he will have two Best in Class Porsches to appreciate.



The beautiful finished product: The Porsche 911

has been recently restored sat in the middle of the room. This special Porsche is one of the 50 remaining 1964 911s worldwide.

Keith Martin, the man who restored this car, bought it when he



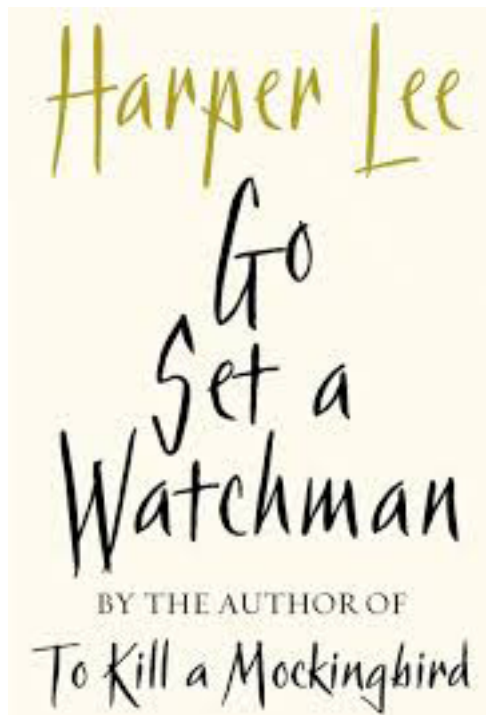
Missed Photo Op

Garrett Murphy, Joseph Stevens, and Sam Dugan missed the JS Honor Society Inductee photo shoot. Lucky for them, Mrs. Roberts was walking across campus and could get the shot. Congrats, guys!

Harper Lee's Go Set a Watchman

By Arthur Laffer

On February 3, Harper Lee's publishing company, HarperCollins, announced that Harper Lee was coming out with a sequel called *Go Set a Watchman*. This novel is set two decades after the events that occur in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Lee's first novel. Her "sequel," actually written before *To Kill a Mockingbird*, involves an older version of Scout coming back home from New York to visit her father. Tonja Carter, Lee's lawyer replies to the sequel by saying, "I was so stunned. At the time I didn't know if it was finished," and added that Harper Lee thought the manuscript for this novel was long lost. However, the editors and executives



at HarperCollins have confessed to not having spoken directly to Harper Lee. A big concern is if would have a claim to *Go Set a Watchman*. Universal Studios owns rights to *To Kill a Mockingbird* that premiered in 1962, grossed \$102 million (\$13 million in

1962), and won three academy awards. Universal lawyers are trying to figure out if Universal owns the rights to the characters in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. I think that it would be cool to read the sequel, *Go Set a Watchman*, but I don't think it is the smartest idea to publish it at this time because Universal will surely want some ownership of the novel; much like years ago when Truman Capote, Lee's next door neighbor and childhood friend tried to prove that he wrote *To Kill a Mockingbird*. If I were Harper Lee, I would not publish the new sequel just because things could get worse and pile tons of stress on all involved, especially the elderly Harper Lee. I know most people would disagree with me because everyone really wants to read *Go Set a Watchman*. Maybe the book will be released after Harper Lee's death, so she does not have to deal with all the mess that is sure to follow.

Works Cited: <http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/harper-lees-kill-a-mockingbird-772176> <http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-31296088>

CREATIVE WRITING CONTESTS: WIN MONEY!

Jesse Hill Ford Short Story Contest

Who: 7th and 8th graders

What: Short story composed during the current school year.

Length: 3-8 pages, double-spaced

Prize: The best short story wins \$150!

Due: Wednesday, April 15th

Turn in a printed copy and also e-mail a copy to Mrs. Roberts.

The Rascoe Bond Davis Creative Writing Contest

Categories: Poetry and Fiction

1st place \$50

2nd place \$35

3rd place \$10

Turn in a printed copy and also e-mail a copy to Mrs. Roberts.

Junior School Entries Due by Wednesday, April 15th.

Google Fiber Unveiling in Nashville

By Aden Barton

We've all had that moment when we are watching a video or listening to a song, and it just stops. The little spinning circle comes on, and we have to sit back and wait while trying not to go crazy. The Internet connection is slow or the video's downloading time is taking forever. With the new Google Fiber coming to Nashville, slow Internet or long downloads won't be a problem. Google Fiber provides super fast Internet and an inventive new take on television that is faster and easier to operate. Google Fiber is like Google's version of Comcast on steroids. According to Google's manual, its Internet speed is 100 times faster than



the regular connection right now. For example, to download an HD movie, for example, with the average Internet provider would take around 11 minutes. Google Fiber claims to download it in 7 seconds! Google has also introduced its very own television system. With a better connection, Google TV has a better resolution and better graphics. Google Fiber's DVR also has some impressive new features. Being able to record eight shows at once and store 500 hours of shows, sets a new standard for television and already makes Google a threat to other television providers. The

new remote is a bonus. You can download an app that acts as an easy interactive remote on your iPhone or iPad. The app acts as a normal remote that lets you search for your favorite shows and prerecord shows remotely. Google Fiber is in the process of bringing itself to several cities such as Austin, Charlotte, Kansas

City and others. Google has already completed the exploration and mapping phase, and Nashville is currently in the development step. However, setting up a whole new network takes time and new infrastructure. It's too early in the process to tell exactly when Google Fiber will be set up, but hopefully, it will be in the next few months.

Works Cited

<http://bgr.com/2014/02/19/google-fiber-expansion-comcast-time-warner-cable/>
<https://fiber.google.com/about/>

Dr. Love Shares His Favorite Pick-up Lines

Dear Dr. Love,

Lately, I've been having some trouble picking up some chicks. It seems to me that my "game" has completely disappeared. Now, I am referred to by the guys as "the lady killer," instead of my old nickname, "the ladies' man." Now, whenever I am around a girl, I can never find the right thing to say. For instance, when I'm around a girl, I'll say "hey sugar, wanna come hang with me in my crib?" Usually, she'll just laugh at me and walk away. Doctor Love, do you have any smooth pickup lines that I could use? In addition, could you please give me step-by-step instructions on how to finally get a girlfriend? Please, I need a very descriptive explanation!!

Thanks,
CONFUSED SEVENTH GRADER

Dear confused 7th grader,

First off, Dr. Love will tell you how to get a girl and give you some great pickup lines that will work on any girl. To get a girl, you need to get to know her and talk to her. You need to know what she likes and dislikes. After getting to know her, start going on dates to make her feel special. After a couple of dates ask her to be your girlfriend. These best pickup lines that have always worked for me are from <http://www.pickuplinesgalore.com/index.html>. So with these tools, you will get any girl.

Sincerely,

Dr. Love



Creator and Entrepreneur, Elon Musk

By Marcus Le

Elon Musk is a South-African-born man who was born June 28, 1971. Musk was born in Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa, and he graduated from Stanford University in 1995. He is a Canadian-American entrepreneur, engineer, and investor at the age of 43. He is the CEO and CTO of SpaceX, CEO and chief product architect of Tesla Motors, and chairman of Solar City. Elon is the founder of SpaceX and a co-founder of Paypal. He has a net worth of 11.9 billion USD in the present year. In 1995, Musk started Zip2, a web software company with his brother, Kimbal. The company developed an Internet "city guide" for the newspaper publishing industry. Elon obtained contracts with *The New York Times* and *The Chicago Tribune*. Compaq bought Zip2 for US\$307 million in cash and US\$34 million in stock options in 1999. Musk received 7% or \$22 million from the sale.

In March 1999, Musk co-founded X.com, an online financial services and e-mail payment company. One year later, the company merged with Confinity, which had a money transfer service called PayPal. The merged company focused on the PayPal service and was renamed as PayPal in 2001. In October 2002, PayPal was bought by ebay for US\$1.5 billion in stock, of which \$165 million was given back to Musk. Before the sale, Musk owned 11.7% of PayPal's shares.

Elon Musk founded his third company, Space Exploration Technologies, or SpaceX, in June of 2002. Musk is CEO and Chief Designer (CTO) of the Hawthorne, California-based company. SpaceX develops and



manufactures launch vehicles with a focus on advancing the state of rocket technology. The company's first two launch vehicles were Falcon 1 and Falcon 9 rockets, and its first spacecraft is the Dragon. In September 2009, SpaceX's Falcon 1 rocket became the first privately funded liquid-fueled vehicle to put a satellite into the Earth's orbit. On May 25, 2012, the SpaceX Dragon vehicle berthed with the ISS, making history as the first commercial company to launch and berth a vehicle to the International Space Station. SpaceX was awarded a contract from NASA in 2006 to develop and test a new launch vehicle, Falcon 9, to transport cargo to the Space Station. A \$1.6 billion NASA contract soon followed on December 23, 2008 for twelve flights of its Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon spacecraft to the International Space Station, replacing the Shuttle after it retired in 2011. SpaceX is one of two contractors in the Commercial ReSupply Services program that replace the cargo transport function of the Space Shuttle. SpaceX is both the largest private producer of rocket motors in the world and holder of the record for highest power to weight ratio for any known motor. In two years, SpaceX has produced more than 100 operational Merlin 1D engines. The relativity immense power to weight ratio allows each Merlin 1D motor to vertically lift the weight of 40 average family cars. In combination, a set of the Merlin engines produces anywhere from 1.3 to 1.5 million pounds of thrust, depending

on altitude.

Musk provided the initial concept for SolarCity, which was then co-founded in 2006 by his cousins Lyndon and Peter Rive. Musk remains the largest shareholder. SolarCity is now the second largest provider of solar power systems in the United States of America. The

underlying motivation for funding both SolarCity and Tesla is to help combat global warming. In 2012, Musk announced that SolarCity and Tesla Motors are collaborating to use electric vehicle batteries to smooth the impact of rooftop solar on the power grid, with the program going live in 2013. On June 17, 2014, Musk committed to building a SolarCity advanced production facility in Buffalo, NY that would triple the size of the largest solar plant in the U.S.

Tesla Motors was co-founded by Elon Musk, Martin Eberhard, Marc Tarpennig, JB Straubel, and Ian Wright. Following the financial crisis of 2008, Musk assumed leadership of the company as CEO and product architect, a position he still holds today. Tesla Motors built the first electric sports car, the Tesla Roadster, with sales of about 2,500 vehicles to 31 countries. Tesla began delivery of its four-door Model S sedan on June 22, 2012 and unveiled its third product, the Model X. It was aimed to begin production in early 2015 but now is intended for early 2016. To overcome the range limitations of electric cars, Musk said in an interview with *All Things D* in May 2013 that Tesla is "dramatically accelerating" their network of supercharger stations, tripling the number on the East and West coasts of the U.S. that June, with the plans for more expansion across North-America, including Canada, throughout the year.



A Much Less Silly Return to “The Man”: A Four- Part Serial



By Anonymous (Hopefully)

PART 3

You might have expected a hug, tears, remorse, even acceptance. But there was none of that.

Instead, Danny backed away in shock and confusion. “That’s impossible,” he said. “My father’s away with my mom. What are you talking about? Why did you bring me here? Did you expect me to believe you after you had a bunch of men drag me out here?”

“No, no I didn’t. I just wanted you to see me, to know who I was.”

“Well, congratulations. You did a fantastic job of making me scared to death of you.”

“Danny, please! I can explain everything.”

“I don’t want to know. You grabbed me out of my house, shoved a bag on my head and put me in a ship for weeks with no human contact. You’re insane. I don’t want to be a part of whatever life you have, don’t you understand that?”

“Danny, I’m sorry it had to be this way. I just wanted to see your face. A month after I left your mother, I knew I had to see you again. But you had already moved far away, and now I’ve finally found you again.”

Danny laughed. “Look, you can’t just...you can’t just spring all this on me so quickly. I don’t even know you. I’ve never met you in my life. I’m tired, and all I want to do is go home.”

“You’re right. Why don’t we go and have dinner and then you can sleep in the extra bedroom.”

“You don’t understand, whoever you are, I want to go home!”

“I’m not letting you!” the man yelled out of nowhere. A strange darkness filled his eyes.

Danny put his hand on the doorknob. “What do you want?”

“I want my son,” he murmured, looking sideways as if he almost wasn’t talking to Danny. “And I’m not going to give him up.”

Danny twisted the doorknob, and the door creaked.

The man’s gaze fell on Danny once more, his eyes bloodshot. “You’re not going anywhere.”

Laptops: Worth It?

By Danny Lee

A lot of students here at MBA (especially in the high school) have computers, and a lot of you may have wondered, "Hmm, should I get a computer, too?" Well, in the realm of using computers at school, there is always a fine line between "want" and "need." Ask yourselves, do you REALLY need a computer? At the age/grade we are now, we really don't need it, but some of you may still want one. First, you're going to want to decide what kind of computer you want. There are always the classic desktop/PC (Personal Computer), the portable laptop, and the most recent 2-in-1 Tablet/Laptop combo. I don't really recommend the desktops because they aren't portable at all, which is the whole point of carrying a computer around for school. If you are going to be using it to play games or other things that require large amounts of power, I DO recommend it, however, because it brings a lot of power at a better value. Laptops are



the generally most used in a school setting, because they combine portability with power extremely well. More recent laptops support a much higher battery life (usually 7-9 hours now) but still contain a decent amount of processing speed to play flash games and some light games. Unless you buy an extremely expensive gaming laptop (at which point you'd be better off buying a desktop and a laptop separately), games that need large graphics cards and/or processing power will not be able to run.

Now, within the laptop world, there are two really big corporations: Apple (Mac) and the various companies that support Windows. Although Apple makes some really great laptops, I personally don't like

them because the devices are often overpriced, non customizable, and designed to sell more units than repair. I mean, they don't even let you change your own batteries!

For PC's, the various companies compete with each other, ending with a higher quality laptop for a lower price. Companies such as Lenovo and Samsung offer more budget laptops while Alienware and Razer offer very high-end gaming laptops. The most recent 2-in-1 tablet/laptop combo is my least favorite. I have played around with one, and even owned one for a brief stint, but I realized I hate it. These devices usually have very limited batteries and limited power, and I personally feel like it's more of a gimmick. If you really want a 2-in-1, you would be better off buying an iPad or a tablet and buying a separate keyboard. It's much cheaper and more powerful.

April 2, 2015

is

*MBA's Grandparents' Day
Welcome Grandparents!*



Hot Chicken? It Must Be Hattie B's

By William Bradford

Hot chicken. Nationwide, it has become Nashville's legendary dish. Hattie B's is an up-and-coming hot chicken joint with three current locations in and around the Nashville area. Known for its tender white meat and signature flavor levels, Hattie B's has quickly become a Nashville staple, a place to take friends when they are in town. Hattie B's has quite the spice spectrum, with heat levels which begin at Southern and peak at the extremely hot "Shut the Cluck Up!" The menu may seem small, but there are tons of ways to customize your chicken. You can have it grilled or fried, and tossed in a number of different sauces. For our readers convenience, I, William Bradford, sampled every heat level. I enjoyed the Southern chicken, although it does not stand out as anything special. It was just your average, everyday, fried chicken. Next, I tried the mild, and it was delicious. It was fried chicken with a little kick. After enjoying the mild, I tried the medium. It was the first level I considered to be hot. It wasn't just a little heat, it was like a tiny flame in my mouth.

INSIDER TIP: Don't touch your eyes after eating any of the following flavors! It is extremely painful to have pepper residue in your eye lid.

Next I tried hot. Upon taking a bite, the small flame grew. It was tasty and very hot at the same

time. By this time my nose was running from inhaling the extremely hot sauce. The next level was, and I quote, "Damn Hot." It definitely lived up to its name. I felt my mouth begin to hurt and my eyes began to water. I had to wash it down with some delicious, house made lemonade. Although quite hot, it was enjoyable. And finally, there was only one tender box left. Upon opening it, I was greeted by an extremely dark piece of chicken; my nose was burning just from the smell of it. I took a bite of the darkened meat, which is dubbed "Shut the Cluck Up!" I don't remember much else after that. Just kidding. It was horrible. "Shut the Cluck Up" is definitely on the menu as a bragging right item, something to tell your friends about. As I struggled through the tender, I asked the waiter what went into this hot, hot, chicken. She told me that the Shut the Cluck Up tossing sauce is made of ghost peppers, habaneros, and cayenne peppers.

INSIDER TIP: Use their website to order online. Once at the restaurant you can pick up your order, the line to order in house is usually upwards of 30 minutes.

Hattie B's also has their share of tasty sides and sauces. Their sauces include blue cheese sauce, honey mustard, and ranch, as well as their signature Hattie B's sauce. The Hattie B's sauce is amazing. It is honey and a mixture of pepper oils. I



Hattie B's famous hot chicken

recommend the honey mustard and the Hattie B's sauce. Sides at Hattie B's are just as good as their chicken. Well, all but one. I did not enjoy the mac and cheese, as the cheese would run off the noodles and pool up in the bottom of the bowl. Yuck! The other sides are baked beans, crinkle cut fries, and southern greens, all of which are commendable combos alongside your tenders. The baked beans are my favorite. They are nice and smoky, with chunks of bacon for flavoring. The beans are vinegary, just as they should be, and all-in-all the beans are a killer option for a side. The crinkle cut fries are also good, with a touch of seasoned salt. The greens are very bitter, but not too bitter. They are extremely vinegary and well cooked, so that they are not soggy but almost crunchy. To top off an order, I like to have a cold glass of Hattie B's fresh lemonade. All-in-all, I love Hattie B's. It has become a Friday night tradition in our family and I give it a 9/10.



The 2015 Oscars

By John Thornton

This year's Academy Awards opened with Neil Patrick Harris performing a routine with Anna Kendrick and Jack Black on the subject of motion pictures. Subsequently, Lupita Nyong'o, former Oscar winner, presented the award for Best Supporting Actor to J.K. Simmons for



Neil Patrick Harris and Anna Kendrick

his role as an abusive music teacher in *Whiplash*. Simmons' acceptance speech expressed his love for his wife and children and conveyed to the audience the importance of connecting with parents. Then, Neil returned to the stage and foreshadowed his Oscar predictions which would be opened later that night. Next, Liam Neeson next described two of the nominees for Best Picture, *The Grand Budapest Hotel* and *American Sniper*. Afterward, Dakota Johnson introduced Adam Levine, the

night's performer of "Lost Stars" from the movie *Begin Again*, starring Mark Ruffalo and Keira Knightley. Jennifer Lopez and Chris Pine then revealed the winner of Best Costume Design to be Milena Canonero for *The Grand Budapest Hotel*.

This award was her fourth win and ninth Academy Award nomination, a staggering achievement. Reese Witherspoon came forward after Canonero to announce the winners for Best Makeup and Hairstyling, Frances Hannon and Mark Coulier, once again from *The Grand Budapest Hotel* (an Academy favorite, it would seem). Following their acceptance speeches, Channing Tatum presented the winners of the 3rd Annual Team Oscar Competition: Chris Carmona, Justin Craig, Kelly Fitzgerald, Justin Floyd, Rhianna Shaheen, and Patrick Waller. Soon after, Chiwetel Ejiofor and Nicole Kidman appeared to celebrate the winner for Best Foreign Language Film, *Ida*. Pawel Pawlikowski accepted the award as director of the film and gave a humorous speech. Shirley Maclaine, a celebrated Oscar-winning, actress, then walked out to introduce the next three Best Picture nominees, *Boyhood*, *Theory of Everything*, and *Birdman*. Afterwards, Marion Cotillard introduced an energized, live-action performance of "Everything is Awesome" from *The Lego Movie* onstage. Following the song, Carrie Washington and Jason Bateman presented the award for Best Live Action Short Film to *The Phone Call*, directed by Matt Kirby and James Lucas. Then, the award for Best Documentary Short Subject was given to *Crisis Hotline: Veterans Press 1*, directed by Ellen Goosenberg Kent and Dana Perry. Octavia Spencer recapped the Governor's Awards winners, including Maureen

O'Hara, Hayao Miyazaki, Jean-Claude Carrière, and Harry Belafonte. Neil Patrick Harris then showed up in the audience and attempted a demonstration with David Oyelowo to prove that "everything sounds better in a British accent." After a not-so-subtle nod at the critical reception of the remake of *Annie*, Gwyneth Paltrow preceded Tim McGraw's tear-jerking performance of Glen Campbell's "I'm Not Gonna Miss You."



Tim McGraw

Following a brief intermission, Harris shocked the audience by appearing on the stage in his underwear to introduce Margot Robbie and Miles Teller. Robbie and Teller showed the highlights from the Scientific and Technical Awards two weeks earlier. David W. Gray won the Gordon E. Sawyer Award, and Dr. Larry Hornbeck received an Academy Award of Merit for his work on the DLP projector. Sienna Miller and Chris Evans presented Best Sound Mixing to Craig Mann, Ben Wilkins and Thomas Curley for *Whiplash*. They then presented Best Sound Editing to Alan Robert Murray and Bub Asman for *American Sniper*. Jared Leto presented Best Supporting Actress to Patricia Arquette for *Boyhood*, and her acceptance speech raised awareness on the issue of wages equality. Josh Hutcherson introduced Rita Ora, who performed the song "Grateful" from the film *Beyond the Lights*. Ansel Elgort and Chloe Grace-Moretz presented Best Visual Effects to Paul Franklin, Andrew Lockley, Ian Hunter, and Scott Fisher. Next, Kevin Hart and Anna Kendrick awarded Best Animated Short Film to Patrick Osborne and Kristina Reed. Dwayne Johnson and Zoë Saldana presented Best Animated Feature Film to Don Hall, Chris Williams and Roy Conli for *Big Hero 6*. Later, Chris Pratt and Felicity Jones gave Best Production Design to Adam Stockhausen and Anna

Continued on page 14

Continued from page 13,loo

Pinnock for *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. Idris Elba and Jessica Chastain awarded Best Cinematography to Emmanuel



Lady Gaga

Lubezki for *Birdman*.

Afterwards, Meryl Streep gave honorable mentions to contributors to filmmaking who had passed away in 2014 and 2015. Naomi Watts and Benedict Cumberbatch gave Best Film Editing to Tom Cross for *Whiplash*. Then, Terrence Howard described

the next nominees for Best Picture, *Whiplash*, *The Imitation Game*, and *Selma*. Jennifer Aniston and David Oyelowo presented Best Documentary Feature to Laura Poitras, Mathilde Bonnefoy, and Dirk Wilutzky for *Citizenfour*. Octavia Spencer introduced John Legend and Common, who did a live performance of their song "Glory" from *Selma*. Idina Menzel and John Travolta, after making a few cracks about last year's mishap, presented Best Original Song to John Stephens and Lonnie Lynn for "Glory" from *Selma*. To many people's surprise, Scarlett Johansson introduced Lady Gaga, who performed a compilation of songs from *The Sound of Music*. After congratulating Lady Gaga on her performer of her old songs, Julie Andrews presented Best Original Soundtrack to Alexandre Desplat for *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. Eddie Murphy then awarded Best

Original Screenplay to Alejandro G. Iñárritu, Nicolás Giacobone, Alexander Dinelaris, Jr., and Armando Bo for *Birdman*. Next, Oprah Winfrey presented Best Adapted Screenplay to Graham Moore for *The Imitation Game*, whose acceptance speech used his own experience of not fitting in to encourage kids to "stay weird, stay different" and not be afraid to follow their dreams. Ben Affleck gave Best Director to Alejandro Iñárritu for *Birdman*. Cate Blanchett presented Best Actor to Eddie Redmayne for *The Theory of Everything*. Matthew McConaughey awarded Best Actress to Julianne Moore for *Still Alice*. Finally, Neil Patrick Harris revealed his somehow entirely correct Oscar predictions. At long last, Sean Penn presented Best Picture to *Birdman*, or *The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance*, concluding the night's ceremony.

The Oscars Controversy: Nominees for Racism?

By Sam Funk

The Academy Awards are a worldwide award ceremony for the best roles in movies, or so it seemed. On the night of February 22, 2015, the Academy Awards were progressing as usual, until the fact that no African Americans were nominated for Oscars for their roles in *Selma* was realized. Slowly, the fact was recognized worldwide, until it became a globally trending topic on social media networks such as Instagram, Twitter, and even Tumblr. In addition, an inside joke between two people at the Oscars left people in complete shock.

Ever since the early days of Hollywood, African Americans have been unjustly represented in Hollywood. In the 1900s, African Americans would usually take on very small roles, such as maids or even slaves. Today, African Americans take on a variety of roles, but some people believe that Hollywood may still be very racist. For instance, the powerful film based on civil rights, *Selma*, received no nominations for the roles in the movie. Many thought that the actors and actresses did an exceptional job, and many people believed that these actors and actresses deserved nominations. People speculate that the performers were not nominated solely because of their skin color. This observation is truly just an opinion, considering that there was still some exceptional acting. In addition, many observations were made that noted more often than not, that African Americans were shown on the movie screen during the Academy Awards. Were they shown

on the screen just to make up for the "racist" acts against the performers? Many believe so. However, the action "against" African American actors and actresses in *Selma* was not the only event that can be considered racist that happened at the Academy Awards.

Also on the night of February 22, 2015, an award presenter said a few words that could be considered derogatory towards this year's "Best Director." When Alejandro Inarritu received the Oscar for best director, Sean Penn joked about Alejandro's real prize being a green card. Alejandro, a Latino, is not of American descent. The public believed that the joke was unnecessary and out of line. In fact, like *Selma*, the public complained about this joke on many social media sites. The Academy Awards not only brought up the issue of racism, but it also created public outcry on topics such as racism.

Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance) Movie Review (No Spoilers)

By Matthew Kaplan

Birdman was nominated for and later won the Oscar for Best Movie of the Year in 2014. Led by an all-star cast starring Michael Keaton, the film was popular all over the country. It was nominated for a total of nine Oscars and won four. This hit movie is about a washed up actor (Michael Keaton) who used to play the role of a superhero named Birdman. He creates an ambitious Broadway production in which he is the lead role, as he tries to gain back the fame he once had. However, many things occur between his creation and the show. Featuring a hotshot supporting actor (Edward Norton), a lonely ex-wife, and a troubled daughter, many entertaining moments fill up the course of the movie.

Although we would like to think that the movie of the year is always simply the best movie, that truly is not the case. *Birdman* won movie of the year only partially because of the film itself. The other reason that it won is that Hollywood loves movies about Hollywood or the entertainment industry



M I C H A E L K E A T O N
Z A C H G A L I F I A N A K I S
E D W A R D N O R T O N
A N D R E A R I S E B O R O U G H
A M Y R Y A N
E M M A S T O N E
N A O M I W A T T S
B I R D M A N
OR
(THE UNEXPECTED VIRTUE OF IGNORANCE)

in general. Very few movies this year were about entertainment; therefore, *Birdman* was able to stand out.

Birdman was a well-made movie that sucks you in by making you feel like you're there. I would recommend watching the movie simply because of its entertaining plot. However, the movie's ending was quite confusing and could be interpreted in many ways. I do not think that it should have won best film because I feel that the best film should be a movie where the plot is clear. Movies such as *The Theory of Everything* and *The Imitation Game*

were fabulous films based on true stories, and both of them could have easily won the award. It wasn't as if *Birdman* was a fallback option for the Academy. The creation of the movie was ambitiously unique, and that trait provided its huge results. As to whether it deserved the success it got, that's for you to decide.



Michael Keaton and Edward Norton

GET READY TO PERFORM! April is National Poetry Month It is Time for the Annual Junior School Recitation Competition

Entry level performance competitions begin in each English class in April, with winners from each class moving on to the main competition in Massey Commons on Wednesday, April 15th. The seventh-grade winner(s) will face the eighth-grade winner(s) on Wednesday, April 22nd.

Prizes are awarded to each grade level winner. Contact your English teacher or Mrs. Roberts for more information.

American Sniper: The Movie

By Jackson Lyell

**Warning: Spoil Alert!*

American Sniper is an action movie about a man named Chris Kyle, played by Bradley Cooper, who is one of the most well-known American war heroes today because of his number of kills in battle. At the beginning of the movie, Chris Kyle is hunting with his dad as a young boy when he discovers that he has a skill at shooting. After seeing the beginning of his life, the movie takes us into his Navy Seal training. At the training, the movie shows the brutal circumstances that he must go through in order to have the



job he wants. After training, Chris Kyle meets a woman named Taya, whom he later marries. With a child on the way, he is sent on his first tour in Afghanistan. While the Marines were on the streets and infiltrating the buildings in the town, Kyle notices a woman with her hand gripped onto something in her pockets. Later, he realizes it's a bomb. The woman then hands the bomb to a boy who will presumably throw it at the Marines. Chris Kyle then shoots both the mother and the boy to save the Marines. This action is his first kill ever. Later, he does three more tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, each lasting from six months to a year. Chris Kyle eventually becomes known as "The Legend." On

one of the tours, there is a sniper for Iraq, who was previously an Olympic sniper. He consistently tries to kill Kyle and the Marines. Eventually Chris Kyle shoots him while he was trying to shoot the other Marines. This shot was his longest ever at 2100 yards, which is over a mile! Later in the movie, he and his wife have two kids but are going through problems. Taya does not want Chris to go back into another tour, but he still does. Eventually, he retires after four tours. He then plays with his kids and watches them grow up as his wife wanted him to do. One day, he and a friend were going to a shooting range in Texas to help a veteran, who shoots and kills them. Personally, I thought that the movie is a great message to all Americans showing that we should be thankful for the people who give their lives to help make our country a better place. On a one to ten scale, I would rate the movie a 9.5. It is a must-see, and if you have not seen it yet, then I would highly recommend it.

American Sniper: The Controversy

By Matthew Kaplan

Many successful movies this year were based on true stories. In fact, four out of the seven nominees for Best Picture were based on real life events. These movies were *The Imitation Game*, *The Theory of Everything*, *Selma*, and *American Sniper*. With every true story comes a personal aspect, especially when its content has the quality to be a film. So, in order to allow these personal stories to not be controversial films, at least one of two things needs to happen. The first thing is simply a story that can be a good movie without being a controversial story that tends to attract people to the theater.



Chris Kyle

This premise knocks out the movie *The Theory of Everything*. The second thing is time, which allows feelings about a particular story to be at ease. When you give something 50+ years, it allows any possible controversy to fade away. In the case of *The Imitation Game* and *Selma*, any controversy flew away with the time. What happens, however, when you have a film with such a controversial story that it extends to a trial? What happens when this story is so recent that emotions are still running high? The answer is presumable: opinions. With opinions comes hatred, then unsettlement, then publicity, then controversy. *American Sniper* fell right into this trap.

The story behind the film is about a man in the Marines (Chris Kyle, played by Bradley Cooper), who was an incredible gunman. The movie

takes us on a roller coaster combination of this man's time in Iraq along with the mentally taxing challenges he faced when coming home. The film displayed how everyone knew the burden the war was putting on Kyle except Kyle himself. The intentions of the movie may have been to show how veterans need more care after war, but instead the movie displayed a very sensitive part of a man's life. After his time in Iraq, Kyle was killed back in the U.S. by a mentally troubled man he had been trying to help. This man was found guilty several weeks ago.

With all this controversy came a lot of publicity for the film and inevitably more money. The film shocked the world with the number of people who watched the movie maybe only because they had heard about the trial relating to it. *American Sniper* made more money than any other Best Picture nominees. So a movie can generate as much hatred as a politician, but the success of a movie is based on the money it makes. For *American Sniper*, the controversy it got may have caused the success it had.

McFarland Movie Review

By Camden Slinger

McFarland is a film about a cross-country coach in a small Mexican-American California town who transforms the life of seven teenagers. The coach, Jim White, has trouble holding a job because of his short-fused temper. He and his family move to McFarland, California, where he becomes the fitness teacher and assistant football coach. During his fitness class he sees that some of the boys are very fast and have good pace. Jim then asks the principal if he can form a cross-country team, and he



receives permission. He finds seven



boys to make a team and changes their lives forever.

This film is very touching and incorporates the themes of teamwork and the idea that wherever one comes from does not matter. The boys -- Danny Diaz, Thomas Valles, Jose Cardenas, David Diaz, Johnny Samenigo, and Victor Puentes -- come from farming families. They have to do back-breaking labor before and after school on the farms. It is really interesting how Jim White's family is able to fit in with the Mexican-American community even though they come from totally different backgrounds. I also enjoyed the part where all of the boys are showing off their new uniforms. For these boys

running is the only thing in which they can really excel. They got a lot of practice running to get to school in time from the farm and running back to the farm when school was over. The fact that the movie is based on a true story really improved my viewing experience. I also thought it was touching how all of the runners on the team later ended up working back for their school in McFarland. This movie showed the true meaning of community when the White family bonded with families around them and the sport sparked the whole school and town to support the team. I found myself walking out of the theatre saying "Uno, dos, tres, McFarland!" and I think you will, too.

CONGRATULATIONS, BEE WINNERS!



Ben Lindsey
The 2014 Spelling Bee Winner



Will Farnar
The 2014 Geography Bee Winner



March Madness

By Ross Johnson

In rounds 64 and 32 of the NCAA tournament, many high-seeded teams showed that they deserved their seed, but there was also a handful of upsets that shocked many people and busted a bunch of brackets. Georgia State, Ohio State, Dayton, UCLA, and UAB all pulled off upsets against the higher seeds in their first games. Sadly, all of the Cinderella stories except for one came to an end in round 32. UCLA is the only remaining underdog left,

and they take on Gonzaga next to see who goes to the elite 8.

So far, there are three remaining #1 seeds (Kentucky,

Notre Dame and Oklahoma are the only #3 seeds left, and UNC and Louisville are the only #4 seeds that moved on to the sweet 16.

A very popular event that takes place during March Madness is people making brackets to try to predict the outcome of the NCAA tournament. These brackets usually consist of biased opinions, stats, tendencies, and everybody's favorite, upsets. This year, 11.57 million people created their "perfect" brackets, yet there are no longer any perfect brackets left. Picking a perfect bracket is so complicated and rare that many people create groups and place wagers on their



UAB upsets Iowa State in the early rounds.

Wisconsin, and Duke) after Villanova was taken down by NC State. Also, Kansas is the only #2 seed that did not survive round 32;

brackets. The last perfect bracket was in 2011 by a woman that picked teams based on how interesting their mascots were.



Weird Mascots

By Jonathan Brown



Charlie the
Choker

Charlie the Choker: Gray's Harbor College - His name and the rope in his hands might make it seem like Charlie is going to suffocate someone, but the rope is a bell choker that was used to make the transport of logs easier.

The Fighting Pickle: North Carolina School of Arts - This mascot was chosen in a contest for its goofy look. However, pickles play no significant role in the school's history.

The Dirtbags: California State University, Long Beach - This odd mascot was chosen because of the baseball team's muddy practice field. Thankfully, this one is not the school's official mascot, but it is commonly used.

Speedy the Geoduck: Evergreen State College - A long yellow skinny mollusk. This seemingly lame mascot was chosen because of the geoduck's difficulty to harvest.



WuShock: Wichita State University - WuShock is a large yellow bundle of wheat. He was chosen as the mascot in the early 1900s because the football players shocked wheat to earn extra money during the off-season.

more intimidating.

Stanford Tree: Stanford University - The Stanford Tree looks like something from a really bad elementary school play or a trash can. However, every year there are contests in which students perform various stunts, and the winner becomes the tree for the year.



Artie the Fighting Artichoke

Artie the Fighting Artichoke: Scottsdale Community College - Artie has a very interesting backstory. When the students of Scottsdale discovered that the school was using financial aid for Native Americans to bribe athletes to come to their school, Artie was chosen by the students as a punishment.

Cites Used:

<http://www.campusexplorer.com/Top-10-Weirdest-College-Mascots/>

<http://10awesome.com/25-weird-mascots/>

http://www.wichita.edu/thisis/aboutus/about_wushock.asp

<http://www.ucsc.edu/about/mascot.html>



THE EVERGREEN
STATE COLLEGE
Speedy the Geoduck



Sammy the Banana Slug

College Baseball Season

By William Stewart



The 2015 college baseball season is underway as the teams are headed into conference play. Five of the top six ranked teams are currently in the SEC. The 16-3 TCU Frogs are ranked number one in the nation with impressive a victory over the formerly top-ranked Vanderbilt Commodores, who then dropped to fourth, and another win over the number seven UCLA Bruins. TCU's success can be credited largely to their impressive bullpen, having the third lowest team combined ERA in college baseball. Second ranked LSU is leading the SEC in terms of national rankings, winning their first two SEC series despite losing

one game in each of the three games series. The Tigers are a hot hitting team and are ninth in combined team batting averages in the nation. The number three Florida Gators won their first SEC series against Tennessee; however, they dropped their next series against Ole Miss, losing two of the three games. The defending College World Series champion and fourth ranked Vanderbilt Commodores have already faced some tough competition early, beating #7 UCLA 6-0, but losing to #1 TCU 4-2 and to #13 Southern California (USC) by means of a walk off home run to end the game. Despite the early setbacks, the Commodores led by All-Americans pitcher Carson

Fulmer and shortstop Dansby Swanson swept the first SEC series against Arkansas and claimed the next series against Auburn. The first of two major college baseball surprises have been the #5 Texas A&M Aggies winning their first 24 games before losing their first game of the season to Alabama. The veteran Aggies team has the second best pitching rotation by means of ERA in the nation. Another surprise is the recent slump of the former #1 Virginia



Vanderbilt wins CWS in 2014

Cavaliers. They have lost five of their last seven games, including losing all three games to Virginia Tech. There is much more college baseball to come, as the teams compete to advance to the College World Series finals.

Microbe A Team Basketball

By Ross Johnson

Microbe A Team basketball, led by coach Sean Jackson, did not have

as good a season as they had planned. They started off the season by finishing second in the Lancaster Christian Academy tournament and the Overbrook Classic. While losing Jackson Hannah and Joel Elasy to injury midway through the season, captains Hunter Burch and Zachary Jackson led the team through adversity as MBA finished



the season strong. MBA clenched the 4th seed in the HVAC tournament. In the first round, MBA played BGA to determine who would go on to

play the #1 seed CPA. MBA beat BGA 51-19 and went on their way to play CPA. The Big Red started strong with a firm lead but then began to fade off as CPA went on a streak to pull ahead by double digits. MBA was not able to pull out the victory to continue their season, but they were pleased with how much they had grown together as a team and as brothers.

Microbe B Basketball

By Jack Rankin



The Microbe B basketball season kick-started with an opening tournament at Overbrook School. The Big Red defeated their first opponent, Nashville Christian Central C Team, with a score of 58-10 after a 29-0 lead at the first quarter from some hot three point shooting. MBA then advanced to the second round to face coincidentally the Nashville Christian Central A team. This time, however, MBA did not find their range as well as against the C team and fell to the larger NCC team 46-32. Then, MBA headed home to face BGA. An effective press and continual solid three point shooting led the Big Red to a 59-28 victory. Next, MBA faced a less experienced USN squad at home. The Big Red played and won 68-5.

FRA was the Big Red's next opponent. Although it was MBA's first road game, MBA was not rattled by the opposing crowd and won 53-9 through an effective press and good care of

the ball. MBA would face its toughest opponent yet, CPA, at home. The Big Red came into the match with the understanding they would have to play hard to give the well-experienced CPA team a tough fight. However, MBA could not pull it out, losing 45-44 after CPA's defense fought fiercely during the final possession of the game.

The Big Red worked hard after this crushing defeat to get better and trained a full day with no gym— just running, lunging, squatting, wall sits, push-ups, and the list goes on and on. MBA's hard work paid off against their next opponent, Ensworth. The Big Red's solid defense and press rattled Ensworth, and the Big Red came out with an impressive 47-35 victory. MBA continued their season against the NCC B team, the only remaining NCC team the Big Red hadn't faced. The Microbe B team proved their dominance with an early explosion of points. MBA never gave in and came away victorious 49-22. MBA faced another difficult opponent shortly after the NCC game, BA. Defense was the name of the low-scoring game, but MBA was unable to hold out against BA, losing narrowly

32-28. After the disappointing loss to BA, Ensworth was looking for revenge, but MBA would have none of it in their own gym, defeating Ensworth once more with a score of 56-44.

MBA finished the season with two away games against Goodpasture and Poplar Grove. MBA easily handled Goodpasture, winning 52-30, but the Poplar Grove game proved to be much more difficult for the Big Red. MBA led 43-40 with barely any time left on the clock, and Poplar Grove was inbounding the ball. MBA's plan was to foul before the Poplar Grove team could shoot a three forcing them to shoot two foul shots since they were in the bonus. However, this plan did not happen. The Poplar Grove player pulled up from 7 ft. beyond the three-point line and banked the jumper (personally, since he didn't call it, I don't think it should count, but apparently that's not a rule). MBA raced into overtime against the momentum. Unfortunately, the Big Red came up short on this day losing 50-43. The Microbe B team's only regular season losses were all very close games. Overall, each player got better this year and enjoyed the season, which in and of itself made this year very successful.

Junior School C Basketball Season

By Samuel Kirkpatrick

The Junior School C Basketball had a great year with a 7-2 record under Coach Maggie Raines. The team opened the season with a great 55-4 win over Stem Prep Academy. After another win against St. Henry's, the Big Red traveled to Knowledge Academy where they won 53-27. Shooting guard Nick "Give him the Rock" Viars had a clutch performance, scoring 25 points



that included five three-pointers. The next game took place at USN, and the team won 53-12 with power forward McGavock Cooper adding a season high of four blocks.

After two more wins, the Big Red faced their toughest opponent of the year: the St. Matthew's varsity team. Both teams came out strong, but the Big Red ended up losing 49-38 despite a last

second three pointer by Nick Viars. A second win over Knowledge Academy then brought the team to their final game of the season against Poplar Grove. The Big Red was sloppy in the first half and was losing 26-13 going into the break. They came back though and were

losing 43-40 with one second left when Nick Viars lofted up a deep three to tie the game which rattled off the rim and into the net—a crushing way to end the season. The season was a huge success and brought along many learning opportunities for the players who look forward to a great season again next year.

Microbe Wrestling

By Garrett Murphy

Through many hard fought matches and tournaments, MBA had another very successful year of wrestling. The year started off with a huge victory over Ensworth, allowing only two pins during the entire match. Next, we hosted Harding Academy and Page Middle School. MBA lost a close match against Harding and lost big to Page 15-70. Although we lost both matches, it was only the beginning of the season, and we had all year to grow and improve as a team. Also, many seventh graders were wrestling for their first time.

The next matches we attended were the MBA middle school duels, where eight teams were present. MBA wrestled Mt. Juliet first. The match was close the entire time, and the final score ended up 48 to 48, a tie. However, there are no ties in wrestling. Therefore, the coaches and referees had to consult the rulebook to determine who the winner should be. Both teams remained tied in a suspenseful decision, which took the ninth criteria in deciding a tie to break it. The ninth criteria states whichever team has more wrestlers score points first will be victorious. Mt. Juliet had eight wrestlers score first, while MBA had seven. MBA lost. However, the day was not over for MBA. The Big Red next had to wrestle Dickson Middle School after their long grueling match against Mt. Juliet. Despite their fatigue, the Red came out victorious with a result of 57 to 30. After the win against Dickson, MBA wrestled a very skilled Nashville Catholic squad.



The 2014-2015 Junior School Wrestling Team

MBA scored 54 against Nashville Catholic's 30, another victory for MBA. The Big Red now, looking up, were in their final match against McCallie, fighting for third place. The fight for victory came down to the final match, but McCallie pulled out the win. After four long matches, the day came to a close with MBA taking fourth place. MBA next hosted two schools, Franklin Road Academy and Donelson Christian at MBA. The Red were dominant in both matches. MBA scored a total of 156 points on the day while both DCA and FRA scored 39 points combined. After FRA and Donelson Christian, MBA only had two matches before the most important tournament of the year, HVAC.

MBA traveled to Battle Ground Academy for its second to last match of the year. Many wrestlers from MBA were absent because of a sickness going around school. Despite missing some of the team, MBA put up a fight and lost only by two points. After the tough loss to BGA, MBA hosted Brentwood Academy for its last match of the year before HVAC. Through lots of

tough matches, MBA suffered a loss to BA by 15 points. MBA put this match behind them, for they had a week and a half to prepare for the biggest tournament all year

The HVAC is an individual tournament, meaning every wrestler wrestles for his weight class, and the points he scores go toward the teams. With team captains Jackson Hannah, Grant Ellison, Jackson Lampley, Blake Andrews, and Garrett Murphy leading the way, MBA earned second place in the tournament. Several MBA wrestlers scored in the top three. Third place finishers from MBA included Garrett Murphy, Robby Barnes, and Jackson Lampley. Second place finishers were Walker Connor, David Hobbs, Blake Andrews, Joseph Stevens, Braden Myers, and Grant Ellison. Finally, Sam Dugan placed first place for his weight class in the tournament. With determination to win and hard-working wrestlers, MBA had a very successful season of wrestling, finishing second in the HVAC tournament only behind BA.

Bowling: The Future of MBA Athletics

By Matthew Kaplan

This bowling season was quite a successful one for the first Junior School bowling squad in MBA history. Led by Coach Eric Armstrong and star player Taylor Hartman, the squad lost their opener against a collection of Father Ryan high schoolers. However, after months of training, hard work, long bus rides, and many bags of chips, the squad was able to bring together six elite bowlers for the state championship against USN. After their previous heartbreaking loss, the squad showed its resilience and pulled through a convincing win over their rival. In its first ever

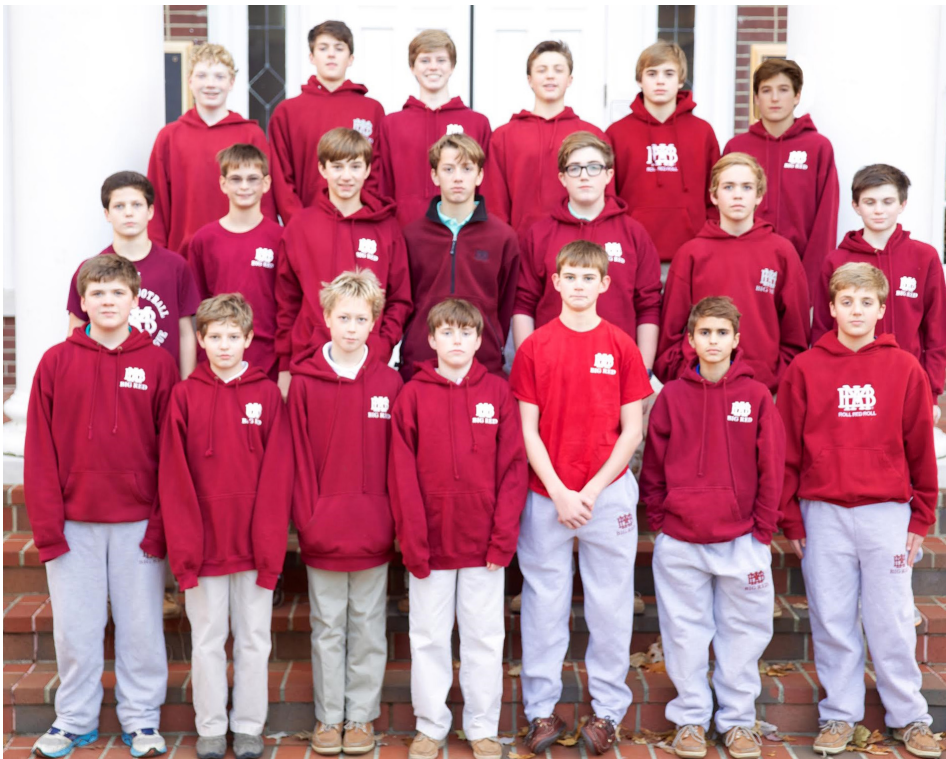


season, the MBA Microbes persisted when it mattered the most. They had achieved greatness.

When people think of reasons to start a Microbe bowling team, they think that the reason may be to give students more options in the winter season. However, what most do not consider is that when the players get a chance to play the game, they show their true potential. When the players are put through the practice environment that these guys are put through, it makes the varsity bowling future even that much brighter. Similarly to sports such as football, basketball, or baseball, bowling uses the tactic of starting to train at a young age

which makes the players better when they get older.

Sure, when one looks at the future of MBA sports, they see that maybe our football future is bright, our basketball team has potential, and our baseball team can make a run for state. However, the game of bowling is sneaking in as an underdog to be one of MBA's top sports competitors. Varsity head coach Jonathan Creamer gets to see the potential that makes up the Microbe bowling squad, as every school bowls at the same place. As of now, it seems as though MBA bowling isn't directly in front of the radar. Let this serve as a notice of the capabilities that the future of MBA bowling possesses. Because before anyone knows the roots of our star bowling team, that squad will have a chance to be crowned state champions, and the new era of MBA bowling will have brought its head above water.



Microbe Swimmers Win HVAC Again!

The Junior School Swim Team finished their season with an impressive 3-0 regular season record. The team placed second in the Middle School Swimming Championship and won the HVAC Championship for the second year in a row!

GOLD AND WHITE OR BLACK AND BLUE?



Comic by John Preston

The staff and sponsors of Top of the Hill would like to thank the MBA Mothers and Fathers Clubs for their generous support!

Editor-in-Chief - Sam Funk

Entertainment - Julian Habermann and John Preston

Features - Arthur Laffer and Danny Lee

Photographer - Jonathan Brown

Sports - Jack Rankin

Graphics/Tech - Hank Thomas '15

Cartoonist - John Preston

Teacher Sponsors - Ms. Greenberg and Mrs. Roberts